



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:
Taggart II, et al.

Serial No.: 09/304,298

Filed: May 3, 1999

For: Removal of Salts in the Manu-
facture of Phenolic Compound

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Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: Michael L. Shippen

Atty. Docket: SHELL-TH1118

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

This paper is filed in response to the advisory action mailed October 15, 2002.

AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 23-124.

The examiner indicated that the amendments submitted after final action, which included new claims 129-155, were not entered. In order to ensure that the record is clear, Applicant requests that claims 129-155 be cancelled (if necessary) and that the following new claims be added:

156. (New) A process for manufacturing phenolic compounds comprising:
- means for separating a neutralized aralkyl hydroperoxide cleavage mass stream comprising salts of neutralization to produce a crude phenolic stream comprising said salts of neutralization;
 - means for separating said crude phenolic stream to produce a concentrated phenolic-rich stream and a crude phenolic bottoms stream comprising said salts of neutralization and a remainder of said phenolic compounds;
 - means for separating at least a portion of said remainder of said phenolic compounds from said crude phenolic bottoms stream into an organic phase.

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